

GENERAL NEWS

The Lesser Events of Last Week.

The city of Santo Domingo was surrendered to the Revolutionists.

It is denied that American missionaries in Colombia are in danger of being assaulted.

A Senate committee will go to Cuba to take testimony regarding the conduct of General Wood.

Senator Dietrich, of Nebraska, arrived at Omaha to stand trial on a charge of receiving a bribe.

Fifteen or twenty Civil War veterans in the army are soon to be made brigadier-generals and retired.

Emperor William has directed the German authorities to officially recognize the republic of Panama.

The Senate agreed to vote on the bill making effective the Cuban Reciprocity treaty on December 16th.

Seven prominent citizens of Southern Georgia were indicted in the Federal Court at Savannah for peonage.

The Free Land League opened the campaign against the Chamberlain proposals with a great meeting in London.

It is thought the Senate sub-committee investigating the case of General Wood will not go to Cuba before March.

A conference was held at the White House looking to the adoption of measures for the extermination of the cotton boll weevil.

At a conference at the White House an agreement was reached between the warring Republican factions of New York State.

Mrs. Philo S. Bennett took an appeal in her suit against Mr. W. J. Bryan and will oppose his acting-as executor of her husband's will.

Turkey was warned by Russia and Austria that unless the reforms were carried out in Macedonia at once the Powers would take charge of them.

Three hundred Moros were killed and many wounded in a fight lasting five days with American troops in Jolo; six Americans were wounded.

No proposition to adjourn the extra session of Congress will be entertained by the House until the Senate either passes or rejects the Cuban bill.

The Republicans of the Senate completed their committee assignments, Mr. Hanna succeeding Mr. Morgan as chairman of the Canal Committee.

General Holguin, one of the Colombian commissioners, made a special plea to the Panamanians, but was told negotiations cannot begin until Colombia recognizes the new republic.

Grover Cleveland, in a letter to St. Clair McKelway, editor of the Brooklyn Eagle, announced his positive determination not to accept a nomination for President of the United States. The letter was written last Wednesday from Princeton, and in it Mr. Cleveland says that his determination is unalterable and conclusive.

The Newly Discovered Sayings of Christ.

Egypt is the burying ground of history. When the Israelites murmured against Moses, it was a bitter piece of sarcasm, "Were there no graves in Egypt?" Graves in Egypt—there are nothing but graves. The Egyptian feast was marked with the ceremony of parading in mummy before the guests that all might be reminded of the fact of death and burial. The arts of Egyptian civilization culminated in burial, in the embalming of the dead body, in the monuments which, with all their hoary centuries still look down upon the traveler. And this passion for the preservation of relics for subsequent generations was shared even by the Egyptian Christians of the first centuries. The dry climate of Egypt, in which even so frail and perishable an object as the papyrus, the ancient Egyptian paper, can be preserved, has helped in the handing down of the early records of the Christian era to our own time.

In the season of 1896-7, Messrs. Hunt and Grenfell, two celebrated English authorities on Egyptian antiquities, unearthed the oldest known manuscript of the Greek gospels. We have seen some fragments of it in the University of Pennsylvania, and they can be easily deciphered now. The date of this manuscript is put at 150 A. D., by some experts. But there was even a more startling discovery made at the same time, that of some of the sayings of Christ, called "Logia," eight in number, which were not included in our gospels. Paul quotes one such saying, not recorded in the gospels, "Remember the words of the Lord Jesus, how He said, 'It is more blessed to give than to receive.'"

It is probable that there were many such sayings treasured up in the minds of the disciples and handed down to another generation, though with the faults and inaccuracies of such verbal transmission, which the gospels, being written records and contemporaneous records, would avoid. One of these Logia was, "Cleave the wood and ye shall find Me. Lift the stone and there am I"—which Henry Van Dyke interprets to mean, that the laborer in whatever employment may find Christ in his work.

But Saturday afternoon the Associated Press dispatches bore the news of another rich find, this time by Dr. Grenfell and Dr. William C. Winslow, of Boston. A large number of these Logia have been unearthed, apparently addressed to Thomas the Apostle, and all beginning, "Jesus saith." The translation of these precious relics of the early Christian era is awaited by the Christian world with much interest. Some of them that have been published are the variations of what we already had in the Four Gospels. For instance, "Ye have hidden the key of knowledge, ye entered not yourselves, and to them that were entering in, ye did not open." But this is something new: When the disciples asked Christ when His kingdom would

be realized on earth, He said: "When ye return to the state of innocence that existed before the fall."

The authenticity of these sayings is a question for the scholars to settle, what the probabilities are that they can be traced back to Jesus Himself. But the news that there has been given to the world what may prove to be a new message from the lips of the Son of Man, is easily the most important news of the year.—Charlotte News.

Our Washington Letter.

Editor of The Progressive Farmer:

Events in Panama are progressing rapidly. The canal treaty has been sent to the isthmus, and ratification by the people of the new republic is practically assured. China, France and Germany have recognized the republic of Panama, and as soon as the question of the division of Colombia's debt is settled, the other powers will also recognize the new government. General Reyes, of Colombia, is on his way to Washington, with the forlorn hope of reaching an agreement whereby Panama may be saved to Colombia, even if it is necessary to annex the latter government to the new republic, with the capital on the isthmus. The people of Panama would not agree to this as they could be outvoted by the Colombians on every question. Colombia seconds her proposals by threats to raise 100,000 men and declare a "Boer War."

THE PANAMA CANAL.

Panama affairs were discussed in the Senate. When the announcement by the Committee on Committees was made, that Senator Morgan was to be succeeded by Senator Hanna as chairman of the Committee on Inter-oceanic Canals, Senator Morgan rose and delivered a bitter attack upon the administration of President Roosevelt. The speech took up the greater part of two sessions of the Senate and before it was over the Senator had to request the privilege of finishing from his seat. In declaring that President McKinley favored the Nicaraguan route, the Alabama Senator became involved in a dispute with his rival, in canal affairs, Senator Hanna, in which the latter denied that President McKinley had any preference between the routes. Senator Morgan was very sarcastic in his speech, using many times the President's favorite words, "clean" and "decent," and referring to the new Panama minister as "somebody from Panama" whose only authority was contained in a telegram received from a revolutionary junta. He accused the President of disobeying the orders of the Senate, contained in the Spooner act; of breaking faith with his pledge to carry out the policy of McKinley; of aiding the revolution in Panama, and of personal ambition to get all the credit for the building of the canal.

"Has the President any excuse," he asked, "for his failure to carry into effect the agreement with Nicaragua and Costa Rica, unless it be re-

sentment toward Colombia and gratification of personal ambition which the law deprives him of further power to indulge? Whatever the incentive, he will fail to carry the people with him in his wild and inexcusable raid."

CUBAN AFFAIRS.

Cuban affairs were the subject of an interesting debate in the Senate, brought about by a resolution, introduced by Senator Newlands, Democrat, of Nevada, in which Cuba was invited to enter the American Union as a State with Porto Rico annexed to it as a county. Senators Lodge, Hale, and O. H. Platt opposed the resolution, chiefly on the ground that it would arouse the suspicion that this country was trying to annex Latin-American territory and that an invitation, under the circumstances, would seem equivalent to a command.

Mr. Newlands supported his resolution by declaring that Cuba would gain greatly by free trade with the United States and that the loan which she was about to make, could be raised easier and cheaper if her bonds were guaranteed by the United States. The Spanish population and many business interests of Cuba favored annexation, but when President Palma was interviewed on the resolution, he said that although Cuba was very grateful to this country, she had no desire for annexation and was progressing very well as she was. In Porto Rico the resolution was discussed, and it appears that the inhabitants of the islands have no desire to be joined to Cuba as a county. No doubt they aspire to become a State themselves some day, and believe their prospects would be lessened by becoming a province of Cuba.

The speeches of the three Republican Senators indicated a concerted attempt to oppose the resolution, and it is said that the object was to allay the suspicions of the South American countries at the present moment when affairs in Panama are so critical. Senator Platt, who was the author of the famous amendment which was incorporated in the Cuban constitution, declared: "I think that our relations with Cuba have been misunderstood. I do not think we are exercising any protective power over Cuba. I do not think that we have even constituted ourselves the guardian of Cuba and made Cuba our ward." Senator Lodge said he was opposed to island States, and that we had all the control of Cuba in a military and political point of view that we could desire. In the course of his remarks, he said he hoped that all the European flags on this continent would follow that of Spain to Europe.

A. B. M.

Washington, D. C., Nov. 28, 1903.

Kindness has two parts: (1) Unwillingness to cause needless pain, either of body or of mind; this is the negative part. (2) Wish and effort to add to the sum of joy; this is the positive part.—J. V. Blake.